

As an active citizen and professional in the community I am voicing my discontent with the actions of Sinclair, and the larger trend toward media consolidation. This is not an issue of politics, it is an issue of patriotism and love of country. Local, independent media is absolutely crucial to a healthy, thriving democracy. The actions of Sinclair in regards to its broadcasting the anti-Kerry documentary are unacceptable. Media consolidation is an issue that is extremely important to most Americans, and will not be tolerated.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.